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rhythm, we are safe in saying that adequately to render *Pearl* into modern English verse, is quite impossible. Nor, perhaps, is such performance desirable. Scholars will always prefer the original; college students will certainly profit more by an attempt to appreciate the poem in all its original grace than by reading an inevitably imperfect "translation."

But, within these limitations, Miss Jewett has performed her task very pleasingly. Her version keeps the tender and pathetic tone of *Pearl*; her verse is polished and sweet; and here and there occur lines showing a true poetic feeling not altogether due to the original. Her translation is, moreover, something of a metrical *tour de force*: it is not easy to maintain three good rhymes through twelve lines of verse; to preserve a refrain consistently; to use alliteration that shall in some measure suggest the original while the translator is under the necessity of substituting modern for obsolete words. The rhymes of her translation are of course not the rhymes of *Pearl*; but what we truly miss in Miss Jewett's rendering is the delicate and exquisite rhythm resulting largely from the mingling of iambus and anapæst that gives to *Pearl* its subtle and especial charm. Miss Jewett's work, too, had perhaps better be a paraphrase than a translation; for instance, the line

"He profered me speche, that special spece,"

is rendered

"She spoke to me for my soul's peace."

Mr. Gollancz wisely recognized the difficulties we mention, and so made no attempt in his admirable translation either to preserve the original rhyme of *Pearl* or to give any substitute for these. He often succeeds, however, in preserving the original alliteration, and gives a fair idea of the strange melody of the rhythm.

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THE SPELL OF THE YUKON AND OTHER VERSES. By Robert W. Service.  
Edward Stern & Co.

As records of actual experience in the West and farthest North, these pieces of verse exhibit considerable skill and are well worth reading. The "Spell," however, we must admit, is

rather that of the new matter, than of its artistic treatment. To us, to speak quite plainly, it seems ragtime verse, and we are yet unconvinced that a barrel organ tune is the fit means of memorializing the crude and terrible experiences of man face to face with the wilderness and the Arctic cold. Verse, is intended to drop a veil of illusion between the facts and us, that we may perceive their diviner significance. A violent insistence, therefore, upon crude verbal colour and literal rendering of line for line from nature in fierce without atmosphere garishness, seems to us a mistaken method, the more to be deplored as Mr. Service lays occasional claim to other than the venal favors of the journalistic muse. More than one line and stanza, indeed the conception of several of the entire poems, have sufficiently impressed us, to make the desire quite hearty that Mr. Service would henceforward seek poetic truth, and not the veridicity of the kodak snap-shot; and go for his athletic schooling to poets of better pedigree than Rudyard Kipling.

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THE BOOK OF WHEAT. By Peter Tracy Dodlinger, Ph.D. New York: Orange Judd Company.

Wheat, from time immemorial, has been the principal food of man; has been found in the habitations of neolithic man; was cultivated in China three thousand years B. C.; was the principal food of the Ancient Egyptians, the Syrians, the Israelites; and, to the present day, it always has been, and is, man's essential food. In this work Dr. Dodlinger has compiled much information valuable to the farmer and agricultural college and most interesting to all readers. Concise and practical information is given concerning the structure and varieties, cultivation and improvement, and the cost of production of wheat; the soil and environment suitable to it; its transportation and marketing. We read, also, of milling, flour, bread, macaroni, and "breakfast foods," and a valuable chapter on price, supply and demand, and speculation of especial interest to the student of economics. The value of the book to the reader is greatly enhanced by its wealth of illustrations.